

Exhibition of the South London Entomological and Natural History Society and is illustrated in their Proceedings for that year, but without complete date. The Dartford specimen is illustrated in *Ent. Soc.* **87**:141. The only other example of which I am aware is that taken on the Isle of Mull, in October 1877. According to Heslop-Harrison (1955. *Ent. Rec.* **67**:175), on some of the Inner Hebridean islands *O. luteolata* has two emergences a year, the first from over-wintered pupae and the second, in August, from over-wintered larvae, a regime in part corresponding to that in south-east England. However, a specimen taken as late as October suggests a representative of a true second generation.

In the Highlands of Scotland *O. luteolata* is mainly univoltine with one emergence period from over-wintered pupae; all wild larvae I have obtained from rowan *Sorbus aucuparia* have pupated in the autumn, and the moths have emerged in April and May. They appear to be the largest strain in Britain, and in appearance otherwise resemble most closely those of generation 1a in north-west Kent. Regarding the brown markings, the forewing apical blotch is not as solid, while the mid-costal mark shows little tendency to encroach along the costa, contrasting sharply with southern specimens from generation 1b, but resembling those of generation 1a. These univoltine moths also display a tendency towards obsolescence of the marginal dots at the vein ends, and the transverse fascia are more obscure. Thus they most resemble generation 1a specimens from south-east England, except in size, and contrast sharply with those of generations 1b and 2 further south.

The pale yellow variety of *O. luteolata* also appears to be of higher incidence in certain generations than others. This is ab. *intermedia* Harrison, perhaps often overlooked and mistaken for a faded or worn specimen. I possess three specimens from Dartford dated 27 August 1982, 16 September 1998 and 9 September 1989 – thus all from generation 2. A fourth specimen was bred from a wild larva on rowan at Grantown on Spey, Moray, emerging 22 April 1964.

The above observations suggest that within the differences which characterise the different emergences there is a tendency for further variations to occur, and these may be specific to one or more generations. Some observations may not be statistically significant, especially those made on populations other than in north-west Kent where thirty-five years of mv light operation has been the main basis of observation of a very common species.— B. K. WEST, 56 Briar Road, Dartford, Kent. DA5 2HN.

### **A melanic Marbled White (*Melanargia galathea* (L.) ab. *nigra* Frohawk) in Kent**

On 27 July 2004, John Websper and I were visiting Lydden Down National Nature Reserve, near Dover, when we noticed what we thought at first to be a dark coloured Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina* (L.) flying in a rather odd manner. We followed it and obtained good, close views over the next ten to fifteen minutes and noted that the upper sides of all four wings were almost entirely black. When the butterfly settled in order to feed, the usual pale markings of the underside of a “normal” Marbled White were clearly visible. The post-discal ocelli were seen in spaces 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7. This variety of the Marbled White has been described as ab. *nigra* Frohawk (Frohawk,

1938. *Varieties of British Butterflies*, Plat 7, Figs. 1 and 2) and is apparent sufficiently unusual to warrant reporting here.— MICHAEL H. SYKES, Hazelwood, Hawksdown, Walmer, Deal, Kent CT14 7PH.

**Black-veined White *Aporia crataegi* (L.) (Lep.: Pieridae) egg-laying on *Amelanchier ovalis* (Rosaceae)**

Whilst staying at Soldeu, Andorra, during July 2004 at an altitude of 1800 metres, I found *Aporia crataegi* to be quite common, apparently well above the level of its well-known fruit tree larval host plants. However, near the village I found several egg batches on the leaves of *Amelanchier ovalis* a small shrub found on steep rocky cliffs at up to 2400 metres in the Pyrenees and in similar habitats on other European mountain ranges. This high altitude potential larval host does not appear to have been recorded before.— DAVID GALL, 5 Culborough Road, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 7NG.

**Further records of the Queen of Spain Fritillary *Issoria lathonia* (L.) (Lep.: Nymphalidae) in Britain during 2003**

Since my observation of a Queen of Spain Fritillary here at my home address on 3 August 2003 (incorrectly printed as 30 August 2003 in the original article – see *Ent. Rec.* **115**: 284) I have received a most interesting letter from Dr A. L. Butler of Towcester, Northamptonshire. Dr Butler encountered a male Queen of Spain Fritillary in a wood just west of Salisbury, Wiltshire on 23 July 2003. This individual was on the ground in an area adjacent to a field containing many plants of Heartsease *Viola lutea*, which I understand is the continental foodplant of the larvae. A further individual is reported from an undisclosed location in Cambridgeshire on 24 July 2004 by Bowles and Fox (Wildlife Reports: Butterflies. *British Wildlife* **15**(1): 58 – 60). I have also heard unconfirmed rumours of sightings in East Anglia during the same year.

The wide geographical separation of the records is strongly suggestive of primary immigration. Dr Butler also saw *Vanessa atalanta* (L.) ab. *klemsiewiczzi* Schill and *V. cardui* (L.) ab. *pallida* Schoyen on 23 July 2003 in the same wood near Salisbury, amongst many typical examples. I also took *V. cardui* (L.) ab. *pallida* Schoyen in Staffordshire on 8 August 2003 – a very pale dwarf form which stood out amongst the many normal-sized individuals feeding on the garden flowers.— JAN KORYSZKO, 3 Dudley Place, Meir, Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 7AY.

**The spread of *Cameraria ohridella* (Deschka & Dimic) (Lep: Gracillariidae) into Hampshire**

I first found a few mines of *Cameraria ohridella* in a small cluster of Horse Chestnut trees *Aesculus hippocastanum* in Camberley, Surrey in late June 2004. As this was just over the border with North Hampshire I decided to get on my bike (literally) and